



Neath Rural District Council

ANNUAL
REPORT

For 1952 by

H. R. STUBBINS, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health



NEATH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

With the Compliments of the
Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
15, ORCHARD CHAMBERS,
NEATH, GLAM.

Tel. Neath 277

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Neath Rural District Council

Chairman - - - - - Councillor VOWLES, Albert, J.P.

Vice-Chairman - - - - - Councillor LUNN, J. J.

Councillor ALLEN, T. G.	Councillor EVANS, Ivor L.	Councillor JONES, Blodwen, J.P.
„ ARTHUR, Richard	„ EVANS, J. T., J.P.	„ JONES, Edith
„ ATYEO, E. J.	„ FROST, T. G.	„ JONES, Wm., J.P.
„ BARNARD, S.	„ GEORGE, J. S., J.P.	„ POWELL, T. G.
„ BOYLE, P.	„ GEARY, R., J.P.	„ REES, T.
„ DAVID, Wm.	„ GRIFFITHS, W. J.	„ SMITH, J. J.
„ DAVIES, A. M.	„ HULL, D.	„ THOMAS, Gwyn
„ DAVIES, John	„ JAMES, John	„ THOMAS, T. L.
„ DAYMOND, D. J.	„ JOHN, B.	„ WILLIAMS, I.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman - - - - - Councillor RICHARD ARTHUR

Vice-Chairman - - - - - Councillor DAVID HULL

HOUSING COMMITTEE

Chairman - - - - - Councillor J. J. LUNN

Vice-Chairman - - - - - Councillor J. J. SMITH

WATER COMMITTEE

Chairman - - - - - Councillor E. J. ATYEO

Vice-Chairman - - - - - Councillor Mrs. B. M. JONES, J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health :

H. R. STUBBINS, M.D., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

C. G. STANFORD, C.R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B., R.S.I. Meat Cert.

District Sanitary Inspectors :

F. W. MILES, C.R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B., R.S.I. Meat Cert.

T. J. JONES, C.R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B., R.S.I. Meat Cert.

GLYN J. PHILLIPS, C.R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B., R.S.I. Meat Cert.

Senior Clerk :

D. J. DAVIES

Junior Clerk :

EIRWEN OWEN

Rodent Officer :

C. H. FOSTER

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
15 ORCHARD CHAMBERS,
NEATH.

To the Chairman and Members of the
NEATH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the area for the year ended 31st December, 1952. It is prepared in accordance with the Welsh Board Circular 42/51 Wales.

The population as estimated in the Registrar General's return for 1952 is 41,250, a decrease of 345 over the population figure as returned last year when the census was taken.

BIRTH RATE.

There were 637 live births during the year which was exactly the same number as in 1951, but the Birth Rate per thousand of the population was a little higher, being 15.44.

DEATH RATE.

Four hundred and thirty-nine persons; 254 males and 185 females, died during 1952. This gives a Death Rate of 10.64 per thousand of the population. This is the lowest death rate recorded in the district for many years. It is interesting to note that the number of deaths in each quarter showed very little difference.

Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System again head the list as causes of death, with 157 cases. Cancer in one form or another came next, accounting for 64 deaths.

Again we note that nearly 60% of the deaths occurred in persons over 65 years of age, and is a trend which is being remarked upon throughout the Country.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Last year I expressed my pleasure at the low Infantile mortality rate. This year again the infantile mortality rate shows a marked decline. Out of 637 babies born alive in 1952, only 12 died before reaching the age of one year. This gives a rate of 18.84 per thousand live births. This is the lowest ever recorded in the Neath Rural District.

The infantile mortality rate has always been looked upon as the best indication of the social and economic conditions in an area. I believe this to be true. The economic conditions pertaining to the Neath Rural Area have, in my opinion, never been so good as they are to-day. The Coal Mining Industry, the National Oil Refineries, Messrs. George Kent's Factory at Resolven, the Aluminium Works at Rheola, and the Trading Estate at Rhigos, together with numerous smaller Industrial undertakings, have all played their part in giving work and security under the very best conditions to a large proportion of the inhabitants of this area. But there is always something to mar the perfect rhythm of life. There is the problem of housing of the people. This I will deal with in a later section.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

One mother died during the year as the result of childbirth. This was one fewer than last year. This means that in 662 births we lost one mother. It is an achievement to reach even this standard, but with modern methods of ante-natal care, and the skill of both Doctors and Nurses, the aim of a nil maternal death return is one which we can look to with confidence in the near future.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

WHOOPIING COUGH.

Thirty-eight cases of Whooping Cough were notified during 1952. I believe this to be the most important of the infectious diseases. Fortunately no death was recorded, but of the chest complications which are apt to follow this condition we have no record. We do know that Bronchiectasis in children of school age is on the increase and whooping cough is one of the diseases which produce this condition. Indeed, the local Chest Physician is contemplating setting up a special clinic to deal with sufferers of this complaint.

Another progressive step in counteracting Whooping Cough is the introduction of immunisation. It is hoped that every mother will take advantage of the advice now available of protecting her child against this infectious disease. The first injection should be given at six months and then at monthly intervals for three doses. The vaccine is used in combination with the Diphtheria prophylactic. Thus a child can be protected against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough at one and the same time.

SCARLET FEVER.

Twenty-six cases were notified during the year with no deaths. The disease was of a mild type. It was quite a common occurrence for Medical Practitioners to ask for permission to treat these cases at home. This permission was readily given if there was satisfactory evidence that isolation could be carried out satisfactorily.

MEASLES.

Three hundred and forty-one cases were notified to your Health Department during the year. There were no deaths again. I reiterate the warning that this infectious disease is apt to be followed by complications which can be very dangerous in young infants. The family doctor should be called in to every case.

PARATYPHOID FEVER.

Five cases of Paratyphoid B were notified during the year. There was an outbreak of this disease throughout South Wales during the months of May and October, and although all the signs pointed to certain foodstuffs as being the cause, no definite proof could be obtained.

DIPHTHERIA.

No cases were notified during 1952. We are now seeing the results of the intensive campaign for immunisation carried out during the last ten years. It is essential to emphasise that if this most desirable state of affairs is to continue every child should be immunised against this disease.

HOUSING

The Engineer and Surveyor to the Council reports that 158 houses were completed and occupied, and 292 partly completed during 1952. In addition, a further 17 houses were completed by private individuals. This brings the total number of houses built and occupied since 1918 to 1,773. At present, building is in progress at Glynneath, Caewern, Clyne, Seven Sisters, Rhigos, Neath Abbey and Skewen.

The need for new houses is fully appreciated by the Housing Committee and every effort is being made to build as rapidly as possible. There are still 1,500 applicants for houses, and in addition there are nearly 700 houses which are sub-standard and will eventually be scheduled for demolition.

The "Points Scheme" which was inaugurated last year is still the method used for the allocation of houses. Some suggestions were made to alter or modify certain aspects of the scheme, but after due consideration by the Committee it was felt that the original scheme was still the best and should be left alone.

One great difficulty which is being experienced by the Department is the reluctance of landlords to repair their properties. During the war years the repair and maintenance of property was a very difficult procedure. Licenses and Restrictions prevented many from carrying out proper maintenance. This resulted in a further deterioration until by to-day the cost of repairs makes the whole proposition an expensive and uneconomic procedure, but we have the Public Health Acts to administer and Statutory Notices to be served on the owners.

In conclusion, may I express my thanks to the Chairman of the Council for his encouragement—to Mr. Colley, our new Clerk to the Council, for his courtesy and ready assistance—to Mr. Stanford and his staff, and to Mr. Davies, the chief clerk, for their loyal co-operation during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

H. R. STUBBINS,

Medical Officer of Health.

1—STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area.—The acreage of the Neath Rural District (including land and inland water) is 52,039.

Baglan Higher	...	...	...	...	1,178	acres
Blaengwrach	...	...	...	...	2,869	"
Blaenhonddan	...	...	...	...	3,466	"
Clyne	...	...	...	...	2,195	"
Coedfiran	...	...	...	...	3,826	"
Dyffryn Clydach	...	...	...	...	1,725	"
Dulais Higher	...	...	...	...	6,261	"
Dulais Lower	...	...	...	...	5,227	"
Michaelstone Higher	...	...	...	...	2,410	"
Neath Higher	...	...	...	...	6,870	"
Neath Lower	...	...	...	...	2,101	"
Resolven	...	...	...	...	4,672	"
Rhigos	...	...	...	...	5,583	"
Tonna	...	...	...	...	3,116	"

Population.—The census population of 1931 is 39,783.

The Registrar-General's estimated population for 1952 is 41,250.

Rateable Value and Sum Represented by a Penny Rate:—

(a) Total Rateable Value	...	...	...	£157,074	0	0
(b) Produce of a Penny Rate—						
General Rate Purposes	...	...	...	£581	15	8

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year:—

		Total	M.	F.	
LIVE	Legitimate ...	624	310	314	Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population :
BIRTHS	Illegitimate ..	13	5	8	
					15.44
STILL-	Legitimate ...	24	7	17	Still-birth rate per 1,000 Live and Still births :
BIRTHS	Illegitimate ..	1	—	1	
					37.7
DEATHS	...	439	254	185	Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population :
					10.64

Maternal Deaths.

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total live and still births
Pregnancy, Child Birth and Abortion ...	1	1.5

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age:—

	Death Rate
All infants per 1,000 live births...	18.84
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	19.23
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births...	0.00
Deaths from CANCER (all ages) ...	64 35 29
Deaths from MEASLES (all ages)...	0 0 0
Deaths from WHOOPING COUGH (all ages) ...	0 0 0

Age Distribution of Cancer Deaths:—

						Male	Female
0—25 years	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
25—35 years	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
35—45 years	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
45—55 years	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
55—65 years	...	...	...	...	...	11	8
65 years and onwards	...	...	...	...	...	21	16

Births.—The proportion of live female and live male births for the year is as 1,000 is to 978.

The number of births and birth-rates for the Neath Rural District are shown in the following Table:—

Year				Births	Birth-rate
1943	...	...	...	697	17.7
1944	...	...	...	802	20.3
1945	...	...	...	656	16.6
1946	...	...	...	741	18.5
1947	...	...	...	800	19.9
1948	...	...	...	694	16.8
1949	...	...	...	654	15.9
1950	...	...	...	660	15.9
1951	...	...	...	637	15.4
1952	...	...	...	637	15.4

Still-births.—The number of still-births and the still-birth rates since 1943 for the Neath Rural District are as follows:—

Year				Still-births	Still-birth rates per 1,000 live and still-births
1943	...	...	...	22	31.5
1944	...	...	...	31	37.2
1945	...	...	...	17	25.3
1946	...	...	...	17	28.8
1947	...	...	...	25	30.3
1948	...	...	...	19	26.6
1949	...	...	...	17	25.3
1950	...	...	...	22	32.2
1951	...	...	...	19	29.6
1952	...	...	...	25	37.7

Deaths.—The deaths at all ages from all causes during the year 1952 amounted to 439. Of this total, 254 were males and 185 females. The deaths correspond to a death-rate of 10.64 per thousand of the population.

The number of deaths, as well as the percentage at different age periods, are given below:—

Age Periods	No. of Deaths	Percentage of Total Deaths
0— 1 year	12	2.73
1— 2 years	—	0.00
2— 5 years	1	0.23
5—15 years	1	0.23
15—25 years	6	1.37
25—45 years	33	7.52
45—65 years	124	28.24
65 years and upwards	262	59.68
Total	439	100.00

The number of deaths and death-rates for the area since 1943 are given in the following Table:—

Year	No. of Deaths	Death-rates
1943	438	11.1
1944	420	10.6
1945	454	11.5
1946	448	11.2
1947	472	11.7
1948	425	10.3
1949	441	10.7
1950	529	12.7
1951	536	12.9
1952	439	10.64

During the year the District Coroner held inquests on 20 deaths, i.e., 4.5% of the total deaths.

Transferable Deaths.—118 deaths occurred outside the district, i.e., being persons belonging to this district. These deaths are included in the total number of deaths, 439 given above. Fourteen deaths occurred within the district among persons belonging to other districts and these have been transferred to the districts concerned and are not included in the total number of deaths for the area.

Seasonable Death-rate.—The following table gives the number of deaths and death-rates for each quarter of 1952:—

	No of Deaths	Death-rate
First Quarter	114	11.05
Second Quarter	109	10.56
Third Quarter	104	10.08
Fourth Quarter	112	10.86

The following table gives the comparative figures for Births, Deaths and Infant Mortality Rates in the County of Glamorgan:—

	Estimated Population 1952	BIRTHS		DEATHS		INFANT MORTALITY		NEO NATAL MORTALITY	
		Number of Births	Population Rate per 1,000	Number Deaths	Population Rate per 1,000	Deaths under 1 Year	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Deaths under 1 Year	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
ENGLAND AND WALES	15.3	...	11.3	...	27.60	...	18.90
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY	...	11,839	16.16	8,473	11.57	407	34.38	247	20.83
URBAN DISTRICTS	...	8,760	16.49	6,362	11.98	314	35.84	191	21.83
RURAL DISTRICTS	...	3,079	15.30	2,111	10.49	93	30.20	56	18.19
Health Division
Constituent Districts
ABERDARE AND MOUNTAIN ASH
Aberdare Urban	...	571	14.08	578	14.25	21	36.78	13	22.77
Mountain Ash Urban	...	570	18.27	381	12.21	29	50.88	14	24.56
CAERPHILLY AND GELLIGAER
Caerphilly Urban	...	717	20.08	379	10.62	30	41.84	17	23.71
Gelligaer Urban	...	629	17.45	423	12.01	20	31.80	14	22.26
MID GLAMORGAN
Bridgend Urban	...	221	16.19	151	11.06	4	18.10	4	18.10
Maesteg Urban	...	423	18.38	269	11.69	11	26.00	5	11.82
Ogmore & Garw Urban	...	395	17.52	262	11.62	26	65.82	16	40.51
Porthcawl Urban	...	130	13.69	118	12.42	3	23.08	3	23.03
Penybont Rural	...	530	15.19	315	9.03	11	20.75	6	11.32
NEATH & DISTRICT
Neath M.B.	...	466	14.72	352	11.12	14	30.04	10	21.46
Neath Rural	...	637	15.44	439	10.64	12	18.84	5	7.85
PONTYPRIDD AND LLANTRISANT
Llantrisant Rural	...	519	20.42	268	10.54	28	53.95	20	38.54
Pontypridd Urban	...	565	14.74	401	12.02	15	26.55	6	10.62
PORT TALBOT AND GLYNCORRWG
Glyncorrgwg Urban	...	216	23.01	15	10.12	5	23.15	4	18.52
Port Talbot M.B.	...	826	18.69	423	9.57	24	29.06	15	13.16
SOUTH EAST GLAMORGAN
Barry M.B.	...	717	17.58	486	11.91	24	33.47	13	18.13
Cardiff Rural...	...	433	12.05	383	10.66	11	25.40	7	16.17
Cowbridge M.B.	...	17	16.43	12	11.59	—	—	—	—
Cowbridge Rural	...	295	14.66	110	6.16	9	30.51	6	20.34
Penarth Urban	...	265	14.44	239	12.98	8	30.08	6	22.56
WEST GLAMORGAN
Gower Rural	...	197	17.01	139	12.00	7	35.53	5	25.38
Llchwyr Urban	...	319	12.57	306	12.06	12	37.62	8	25.38
Pontardawe Rural	...	468	14.57	427	13.30	15	32.05	7	14.96
RHONDDA
Rhondda Urban	...	1,712	15.59	1,417	12.91	68	39.72	43	25.12

Causes of Death (Neath Rural) 1952.

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis—respiratory	9	6	15
Tuberculosis other	0	3	3
Syphilitic Disease	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Meningococcal infections	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	0	1
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach ...	8	4	12
Malignant Neoplasm, lung bronchus	7	0	7
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	0	5	5
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	0	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	20	18	38
Leukæmia aleukæmia	0	0	0
Diabetes	1	2	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	22	30	52
Coronary disease, angina	48	12	60
Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	1	2
Other heart diseases	30	34	64
Other circulatory disease	16	15	31
Influenza	2	0	2
Pneumonia	5	5	10
Bronchitis	14	4	18
Other diseases of respiratory system	14	0	14
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	0	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhea ...	0	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	4	7
Hyperpasia of prostate	4	0	4
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	0	1	1
Congenital malformations	4	4	8
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	21	30	51
Motor Vehicle accidents	6	2	8
All other accidents	3	1	4
Suicide	2	0	2
Homicide and operations of war ...	0	1	1
	254	185	439

Infantile Mortality.

For the purpose of calculating Infantile Mortality, there were 637 births during the year and 12 deaths of infants under One Year, giving an infantile mortality rate of 18.84 per thousand live births.

The infantile mortality rates for legitimate and illegitimate infants were 18.84 and 9.00 respectively.

The following table gives the number of births and deaths of infants under One Year, together with its corresponding infant mortality rate, for each year since 1943 :—

Year				Births	Deaths under one year	Rate per 1,000 births
1943	...	...	...	697	42	60
1944	...	...	...	802	26	32
1945	...	...	...	656	36	55
1946	...	...	...	741	35	47
1947	...	...	...	800	37	46
1948	...	...	...	694	32	46
1949	...	...	...	654	27	41
1950	...	...	...	660	22	33
1951	...	...	...	637	15	24
1952	...	...	...	637	12	19

The following Table gives the causes of death in these 12 cases :—

No.	Age	Sex	Cause of Death
1	15 minutes	M.	ASPHYXIA NEONATORUM.
2	1 Day	M.	PREMATURITY.
3	3 Days	M.	ANOXIA.
4	3 Weeks	M.	TOXÆMIA AND URÆMIA.
5	1 Month	M.	GASTRO-ENTERITIS.
6	1 Month	F.	SPINA-BIFIDA.
7	2 Months	F.	PREMATURITY.
8	2 Months	F.	SPINA BIFIDA.
9	3 Months	F.	TUBERCULOUS MENINGITIS
10	3 Months	F.	PNEUMONIA.
11	4 Months	F.	BRONCHO PNEUMONIA
12	4 Months	M.	BRONCHO PNEUMONIA.

II—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

(a) Water.

The following rainfall was recorded at Ystradfellte during 1952:—

	ins.
January	8.56
February	2.04
March	6.32
April	5.43
May	5.82
June	5.42
July	2.83
August	9.53
September	4.51
October	6.88
November	5.34
December	7.71

TOTAL ... 70.39

The following Table gives the various sources of water supply, together with the number of houses served by each supply in each District, Valley, Parish and Ward:—

District and Parishes	Ystradfellte Water Scheme	Llynfawr Reservoir	Neath Borough Reservoir	Springs, Wells, Etc.	Without Water Supply	Total
DULAIS VALLEY						
Dulais Higher (Crynant Ward ...	402	0	0	19	0	421
Seven Sisters Ward	706	0	0	13	0	719
Onllwyn Ward	518	0	0	7	0	525
Dulais Lower	315	0	0	30	0	345
						2010
NEATH VALLEY (Non-tidal portion)						
Rhigos	78	412	0	25	0	515
Neath Higher	1225	0	0	44	1	1270
Blaengwrach	220	0	0	19	0	239
Resolven Res. Ward	824	0	0	18	1	843
Cwmgwrach Ward	250	0	0	6	0	256
Neath Lower	99	0	0	14	0	113
Clyne	227	0	0	6	0	233
						3469
NEATH VALLEY (tidal portion)						
Tonna	472	0	4	33	0	509
Blaenoddan	1030	0	0	24	0	1054
Dyffryn Clydach ...	731	0	0	27	1	759
Coedffranc	2661	0	0	11	0	2672
						4994
AFAN VALLEY						
Baglan Higher	113	0	0	5	0	118
Michaelstone Higher	277	0	0	15	0	292
						410
TOTALS	10148	412	4	316	3	10883

The following Table gives the percentage of Houses on the various Water Supplies in the area :—

District	Ystrad-fellte Water Scheme	Llynfawr Reservoir	Neath Borough Reservoir	Springs, Wells, Etc.	Without Water Supply
DULAIS VALLEY: Comprising Dulais Higher and Dulais Lower	96.57	0.00	0.00	3.43	0.00
NEATH VALLEY: (Non-tidal portion):— Comprising Rhigos, Neath Higher, Blaengwrach, Resolven, Neath Lower and Clyne	84.26	11.88	0.00	3.81	0.05
NEATH VALLEY: (Tidal portion):— Comprising Tonna, Blaenhonddan, Dyffryn Clydach and Coedffranc	98.00	0.00	0.08	1.90	0.02
AFAN VALLEY: Comprising Baglan Higher and Michaelstone Higher ...	94.89	0.00	0.00	5.11	0.00
TOTALS—N.R.D.C.	93.24	3.78	0.04	2.91	0.03

WATER SAMPLES

During 1952, 56 samples of water were taken and submitted to the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory for Bacteriological examination; of these, 51 samples proved satisfactory and 5 unsatisfactory. Thirty samples of water were submitted for chemical analysis, and of these 26 proved satisfactory and 4 unsatisfactory.

(c) **Closet Accommodation.**

The following Table gives at a glance the position of each Parish as to the nature of its sanitary circumstances:—

District	Structural Separate Dwellings	Water Carriage System to Sewer	Water Carriage System to Cess-pool & disused Pits	Water Carriage System to Rivers & Streams	Slop Water System only to Cesspool and Water Course	Houses without Closet Accommo- dation	Pails	Privies	Houses without Drains
DULAIS VALLEY:									
Dulais Higher (Crynant	421	395	4	0	10	12	15	7	0
(Seven Sisters	719	694	2	0	17	6	19	1	0
(Onllwyn Ward	525	512	2	0	8	3	10	4	0
(Dulais Lower	345	302	7	0	22	14	29	7	0
Total	2010	1903	15	0	57	35	73	19	0
NON-TIDAL PORTION OF NEATH VALLEY:									
Rhigos	515	273	18	1	151	72	197	19	7
Neath Higher	1270	1088	21	3	110	48	134	24	0
Blaengwrach	239	173	2	0	35	29	62	1	1
Resolven (Resolven Ward	843	789	11	0	34	9	41	2	0
(Cwmgwrach Ward	256	235	2	0	12	7	19	0	0
Neath Lower	113	0	10	0	92	11	96	7	0
Clyne	233	222	1	0	9	1	9	1	0
Total	3469	2780	65	4	443	177	558	54	8
TIDAL PORTION OF NEATH VALLEY:									
Tonna	509	449	15	1	24	20	35	4	1
Blaenhonddan	1054	913	36	0	85	20	89	17	3
Dyffryn Clydach	759	651	24	0	48	36	49	29	6
Coedffranc	2672	2599	18	0	36	19	49	6	0
Total	4994	4612	93	1	193	95	222	56	10
AFAN VALLEY:									
Baglan Higher	118	0	2	0	100	16	101	15	0
Michaelstone Higher	292	241	7	0	41	3	40	3	1
Total	410	241	9	0	141	19	141	18	1
GRAND TOTAL	10883	9536	182	5	834	326	994	147	19

Closet Accommodation. Percentage Basis

The following Table gives the percentages of the sanitary circumstances of the houses in the area:—

District	Water Carriage System to Sewer	Water Carriage System to Cesspool & disused Pits	Water Carriage System to Rivers & Streams	Slop Water System only to Cesspool & Water Course	Houses without Drains	Pails	Privies	Houses without Closet Accommodation
DULAIS VALLEY: Comprising Dulais Higher and Dulais Lower	94.68	0.75	0.00	2.83	1.74	3.63	0.94	0.00
NON-TIDAL PORTION OF NEATH VALLEY: Comprising Rhigos, Neath Higher, Blaengwarch, Resolven, Neath Lower and Clyne	80.14	1.87	0.12	12.77	5.10	16.08	1.56	0.23
TIDAL PORTION OF NEATH VALLEY: Comprising Tonna, Blaenhonddan, Duffryn Clydach and Coedffranc ...	92.35	1.86	0.02	3.87	1.90	4.45	1.12	0.20
AFAN VALLEY: Comprising Baglan Higher and Michaelstone Higher	58.78	2.20	0.00	34.39	4.63	34.39	4.39	0.24
TOTALS—N.R.D.C.	87.62	1.67	0.05	7.66	3.00	9.13	1.35	0.18

(d) Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

During the year under review, the following number of separate properties were inspected:—

Local Authority Properties	20
Dwelling Houses	537
Agricultural Properties	13
Business Premises	130
Total	700

During these inspections the following infestations were discovered:—

Major infestations by Rats	3
Minor infestations by Rats.....	77
Minor infestations by Mice.....	45

Sixty of these properties were treated by the local authority, in addition to a further eighty-one adjoining properties.

During the year a maintenance treatment for rats in sewers was carried out. Four hundred and twenty-seven man-holes were pre-baited. Eighty-one of these showed a pre-bait take and were poison baited. Forty-five of these man-holes showed a poison take.

(e) **Schools.**

The sanitary conditions and water supply of Schools within the District are as follows:—

<u>School</u>	<u>Source of Water</u>	<u>Closet Accommodation</u>
Aberdulais—Mixed	Ystradfellte Water Supply	Water Carriage system to sewer
Blaengwrach—Mixed	do.	do.
Aberdulais—Infants	do.	do.
Blaengwrach—Infants	do.	do.
Bryncoch—Mixed	do.	do.
Bryncoch—Infants	do.	do.
Bryncoch (Non-provided)— Mixed and Infants		
Cadoxton—Junior	do.	do.
Cadoxton—Senior	do.	do.
Cilfrew—Junior	do.	do.
Coedffranc—Boys	do.	do.
Coedffranc—Girls	do.	do.
Coedffranc—Infants	do.	do.
Skewen Lower—Boys	do.	do.
Skewen Lower—Girls	do.	do.
Clyne—Mixed	do.	do.
Clyne—Infants	do.	do.
Crynant—Mixed	do.	do.
Crynant—Infants	do.	do.
Glyneath—Boys	do.	do.
Glynneath—Girls	do.	do.
Glynneath—Infants	do.	do.
Jersey Marine—Mixed	do.	do.
Jersey Marine—Infants	do.	do.
Maesmarchog—Mixed	do.	do.
Maesmarchog—Infants	do.	do.
Neath Abbey—Infants	do.	do.
Onllwyn—Mixed	do.	do.
Onllwyn—Infants	do.	do.
Resolven—Boys	do.	do.
Resolven—Girls	do.	do.
Resolven—Infants	do.	do.
Rhigos—Mixed	Llynfawr Reservoir	do.
Rhigos—Infants	do.	do.
Seven Sisters—Boys	Ystradfellte Water Supply	do.
Seven Sisters—Girls	do.	do.
Seven Sisters—Infants	do.	do.
Tonna—Mixed	do.	do.
Tonna—Infants	do.	do.
Tonmawr—Mixed	do.	Pail Closet
Tonmawr—Infants	do.	do.

III—HOUSING

(a) Housing Schemes.

From 1918 to 1939, the Council built 800 houses in the area. From 1946 to December 31st, 1952, 973 houses have been built and occupied in the area. These consist of:—

100	Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows.
170	Permanent Prefabricated Houses.
703	Traditional type Houses.

(b) Inspection of Dwelling Houses in the Area during the year:—

(i)	Total number of houses inspected for housing defects	1,033
(ii)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	1,509

(c) Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice... 94

(d) Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

(i) Proceeding under Public Health Act, 1936:

(a)	Number of dwellings in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	21
(b)	Number of dwellings which were rendered fit after service of formal notice	21

(ii) Proceedings under Housing Acts:

(a)	Number of Demolition Orders made and undertakings given under Sec. II	32
(b)	Total number of Demolition Orders, etc., made since 1945	65

IV—SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

(a) The number and nature of inspections made during the year are given below:

Houses inspected	1003
Houses re-inspected	506
Overcrowding inspections	613
Owners or Contractors interviewed	115
Common Lodging Houses	16
Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures	27
Public Houses	74
Amusement Places	5
Schools	14
Bakehouses—Mechanical and Non-Mechanical	92
Factories—Mechanical and Non-Mechanical	35
Offensive Trades	19
Slaughterhouses	492
Piggeries	67
Stables	7
Refuse Tips	189
Accumulations	36
Back Lanes	115
Drains	51
Sewers	6

Public Urinals	86
Cesspools	1
Water Courses	27
Water Supplies	44
Rat Infestations	47
Provision Shops and Stores	454
Butchers' Shops and Butchers' food preparing places	399
Greengrocers and Fishmongers	93
Fried Fish Shops	65
Restaurants, Canteens, etc.	165
Food Vehicles	11
Cottagers' Pigs examined	2
Dairies, Milk Shops, etc.	50
Ice cream premises, barrows, etc.	98
Smoke observations	131
Infectious diseases—houses visited and disinfected	66
Visits not classified	10
TOTAL	5231

(b) The following is a summary of nuisances and defects remedied during the year :—

(1) HOUSES :	
Dampness abated	92
Walls repaired	16
Outside plastering repaired	33
Inside plastering repaired	42
Floors renewed or repaired	36
Roofs renewed or repaired	61
Chutes, downpipes, etc., renewed or repaired	43
Chimneys repaired	2
Ceilings repaired	18
Doors and frames renewed or repaired ..	30
Lighting and ventilation of rooms improved ..	8
Window sashes renewed or repaired	36
Window cords renewed	11
Staircases repaired	4
Grates or Ovens renewed or repaired	16
Boilers provided or repaired	1
Outbuildings repaired	5
Yard Paving relaid or repaired	4
Water Taps or Pipes repaired or renewed	4
Houses treated for vermin	12
Bedding cleansed or destroyed	1
Houses cleansed or re-decorated	2
Nuisances from animals abated	7
Accumulations removed	8
(2) DRAINAGE :	
Drains relaid or repaired	14
Drains cleansed	1
Intercepting Traps fixed	3
Soil or Vent Pipes fixed or repaired	1
Bath Wastes trapped or repaired	4
Drain Inlets inside houses abolished	1

(3) W.C.'s :	
W.C.'s reconstructed or repaired	14
New or additional W.C.'s provided	4
New Pans or Traps fixed	4
W.C.'s cleansed	2
Flushing apparatus repaired	12
Miscellaneous repairs	5
(4) EARTH or PAIL CLOSETS :	
Abolished	1
(5) CESSPOOLS :	
Emptied	1
(6) COMMON LODGING HOUSES :	
Limewashing or cleansing carried out	3
Bedding renewed	1
Verminous rooms treated	2
Bedsteads cleansed or repaired	2
Accumulations removed	2
(7) TENTS, VANS and SHEDS :	
Removed	2
Sanitary improvements effected	1
(8) FACTORIES :	
Want of cleanliness	1
Miscellaneous nuisances and repairs	1
(9) FOOD SHOPS, RESTAURANTS, Etc. :	
Lighting and ventilation improved	1
Accumulations removed or cleanliness improved	6
Storage arrangements improved	2
Washing facilities provided	1
W.C. accommodation provided or improved ...	13
Other repairs to walls, floors, etc.	23
Other sources of contamination removed	2
TOTAL	612

(c) Number of Notices served :—

(i) Informal	193
(ii) Statutory	21
TOTAL	214

(d) Result of service of above Notices :—

(i) Informal Notices complied with	170
(ii) Statutory Notices complied with	21
TOTAL	191

(e) HOUSING—OVERCROWDING :

The need for new houses in the area still continues, there being some 1,500 applications for re-housing filed in the department. In addition, there are some 670 houses in the area which are of a type suitable for demolition.

V—INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

During the year, 50 visits were made to Dairies and Milkshops in the area. The following numbers of Licenses to sell milk under special designations were issued during the year :—

(i) TUBERCULIN TESTED MILK :

Licence in respect of establishment at which T.T. milk is sold, but not produced or bottled ...	5
--	---

(ii) STERILISED MILK :

Licence in respect of premises from which sterilised milk is sold, but where process of sterilisation is not carried out	4
--	---

(iii) PASTEURISED MILK :

Licence in respect of premises from which pasteurised milk is sold, but where process of Pasteurisation is not carried on	12
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During the year, 14 samples were taken for the detection of the Tubercle Bacilli. In two of these cases the Tubercle Bacilli was found to be present and in each case the diseased cow was found by the veterinary officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Two unsatisfactory samples of ungraded milk were obtained during the year.

(b) ICE-CREAM :

The following number of premises in the area are registered for the sale, or manufacture and sale, of ice-cream :—

(i) For manufacture and sale	20
(ii) For sale only	48

During the year, 98 visits were made to ice-cream premises in the area. No unsatisfactory samples were obtained during the year.

(c) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS :

The following number of animals were slaughtered and examined at Court Herbert Slaughterhouse during the year :—

Cattle	Sheep & Lambs	Calves	Pigs	TOTAL
2,101	21,795	9,419	1,594	34,909

During the same period the following carcasses, offal, etc., were surrendered as unfit for human consumption :—

CATTLE :

Carcases and Part Carcases (all causes) :—

63 Carcases	26,937 lbs.
18 Forequarters	1,865 lbs.
5 Hindquarters	719 lbs.
2 Port Hindquarters	181 lbs.
38 lbs. Bruised Beef	38 lbs.

Offal (all causes) :—

202 Heads	5,947 lbs.
841 Livers; 475 Part Livers	11,121 lbs.
378 Lungs	3,350 lbs.
68 Welts; 66 Tails; 69 Skirts; 63 Hearts	680 lbs.
Guts, Tripes, Mesenteries.	

SHEEP :

Carcases and Part Carcases (all causes) :—

64 Carcases	1,918 lbs.
2 Fores; 1 Hind; 2 Legs; 1 Part Leg; 1 Breast	30 lbs.

Offal (all causes) :—

70 Heads	209 lbs.
255 Plucks	761 lbs.
2249 Livers	5,194 lbs.
2225 Lungs	2,634 lbs.
1 Kidney	4 lbs.

CALVES :

Carcases (all causes) :—

69 Carcases	2,509 lbs.
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Offal (all causes) :—

75 Heads	278 lbs.
95 Plucks	299 lbs.
3 Livers	6 lbs.
1 Lung	2 lbs.

PIGS:

Carcases and Part Carcases (all causes) :—

2 Carcases	384 lbs.
2 Fores	93 lbs.
4 lbs. Loin Pork	4 lbs.
80 lbs. Bruised Pork	80 lbs.

Offal (all causes) :—

110 Heads	1,766 lbs.
98 Plucks	565 lbs.
16 Livers	56 lbs.
10 Lungs	19 lbs.

Total Weight surrendered..... 67,649 lbs.

= 30 Tons 4 Cwts 1 lb.

The following foodstuffs were surrendered at various shops throughout the area during the year :—

	lbs.	ozs.
80 lbs. Hind-quarter Beef (Imported)	80	0
26 lbs. Hind-quarter Beef (Home-killed)	26	0
14 lbs. Fore-quarter Beef	14	0
Boneless Ham Fillets	10	14
Pork Butts	25	13
436 Loaves Bread	763	0
Cheese	45	5
Sausage	5	0
Bacon	8	4
285 Tins Meat (various)	476	10
409 Tins Fruit (various)	677	13
73 Tins Cooked Ham	624	12
14 Tins Fish (various)	9	4
19 Tins Vegetables (various)	33	13
50 Tins Milk	43	1
Sweetened Cake Flour	22	0
Whipped Cream	8	0
Corn Flakes	51	0
Shredded Wheat	34	0
Salt	3	0
Caramel Powder	1	5
Custard Powder	0	12
Blancmange	0	11

TOTAL..... 2964 5

= 1 Ton 6 Cwts 1Qr. 24 lbs. 5 ozs.

VI—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following table gives a comparison of the number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified during 1951 and 1952:—

Year	Dysentery	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Paratyphoid Fever	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Measles	Acute Poliomyelitis	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmic Neonatorum
1951	—	25	3	128	—	1	37	136	P. —	N.P. 2	—
1952	2	26	—	38	5	2	24	341	1	—	1

Scarlet Fever.—There were 26 cases notified during the year. There were no deaths. The attack-rate was 0.63 per 1,000 of the population.

Dysentery.—There were 2 cases notified during the year. There were no deaths. The attack-rate was 0.05 per 1,000 of the population.

Whooping Cough.—There were 38 cases notified during the year. There were no deaths. The attack-rate was 0.92 per 1,000 of the population.

Pneumonia.—There were 24 cases notified during the year. There were 10 deaths. The attack rate was 0.58 per 1,000 of the population.

Erysipelas.—There were two cases notified during the year. The attack-rate was 0.04 per 1,000 of the population.

Measles.—There were 341 cases notified during the year. The attack-rate was 8.26 per 1,000 of the population.

Acute Poliomyelitis.—There was one case notified during the year—paralytic—the attack rate was 0.02 per thousand of the population.

Paratyphoid Fever.—There were five cases notified during the year. The attack-rate was 0.12 per thousand of the population.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—There was one case notified during the year. The attack-rate was 0.02 per 1,000 of the population.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—There was one case notified during the year. The attack-rate was 0.02 per 1,000 of the population.

The Table given below shows the age distribution of notified Infectious Diseases :—

Diseases	All Ages	Under One Year	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	35-	45-	65 & over
Scarlet Fever	26	—	—	2	3	3	8	7	1	1	—	1	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	24	3	1	—	1	3	1	—	1	3	2	7	2
Erysipelas	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever..	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	1	—
Whooping ...Cough	38	4	5	4	3	7	13	2	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	341	15	23	35	29	57	173	6	3	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Polioencephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Number of Deaths.

The following Table shows the number of deaths from Infectious Diseases during the year, as well as age-distribution :—

Diseases	All Ages	Under 1 Year	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	35-	45-	65 and over
Pneumonia	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Measles ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

The following Table shows the incidence of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Erysipelas, Cerebro-Spinal Fever, Whooping Cough and Measles during recent years :—

Year	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Erysipelas	Cerebro-Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles
1943	1.63	3.16	0.00	0.17	0.02	3.59	6.98
1944	3.74	1.67	0.00	0.20	0.02	1.45	6.35
1945	2.75	1.49	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.60	7.68
1946	1.69	1.32	0.02	0.22	0.00	1.52	0.77
1947	1.22	1.02	0.00	0.09	0.05	1.07	13.25
1948	4.63	0.53	0.02	0.12	0.00	2.69	0.56
1949	2.77	0.63	0.05	0.02	0.00	2.50	5.12
1950	1.40	0.19	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.43	9.19
1951	0.60	0.07	0.00	0.02	0.00	3.08	3.28
1952	0.63	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.92	8.26

(b) **Tuberculosis.**—The following Table shows particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area during 1952 :—

Age Periods	New Cases Notified				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 Year to 1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1 Year to 5 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Years to 10 Years	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
10 Years to 15 Years	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
15 Years to 20 Years	1	3	—	—	—	2	—	—
20 Years to 25 Years	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 Years to 35 Years	9	5	2	1	1	1	—	—
35 Years to 45 Years	—	1	—	—	3	2	—	1
45 Years to 55 Years	2	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
55 Years to 65 Years	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	1
65 Years and Upwards	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals	19	16	5	3	9	6	—	3

The death-rates from Tuberculosis (since 1943) are shown in the following Table :—

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
General Death-rate	11.1	10.6	11.5	11.2	11.7	10.3	10.7	12.7	12.9	11.3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.66	0.63	0.63	0.53	0.39	0.53	0.46	0.29	0.24	0.36
Tuberculosis (other forms)	0.13	0.18	0.12	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.10	0.17	0.02	0.07
Tuberculosis (all forms)	0.79	0.81	0.65	0.60	0.54	0.58	0.56	0.46	0.27	0.43



